

VZCZCXRO8854
PP RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHDH RUEHKUK RUEHROV
DE RUEHDO #0667 3201023
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 161023Z NOV 09
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9496
INFO RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 0001
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT 0854

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 000667

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/12/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [CA](#) [MO](#) [QA](#)

SUBJECT: 2010 FORUM FOR THE FUTURE: DEMOCRACY LEADER LOOKS
AHEAD

Classified By: Ambassador Joseph E. LeBaron for reasons 1.4 (b and d).

(C) KEY POINTS

-- Ambassador met November 12 with Marzen Marzouk, Director of the Arab Democracy Foundation (ADF). They discussed preparations for the 2010 Forum for the Future, which Qatar will co-host.

-- Marzouk said that the ADF and National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) would take the lead on the NGO side and the MFA for the government, but when pressed by the Ambassador he admitted that the PM had not communicated a decision as to the role ADF and NHRC would play.

-- Marzouk predicted that tensions between PM and FM Shaykh Hamad bin Jassim Al Thani and ADF Chair Shaykha Mozah bint Nasser Al Misnad would influence the role that ADF and NHRC will play in organizing and conducting the Forum.

-- The ADF Director stressed the importance of beginning preparations for the Forum right away, and offered his opinion that it could not succeed if the U.S. did not play a major role.

(C) COMMENTS

-- Marzouk was right to concede that the role the ADF and NHRC would play relative to the MFA would be influenced by the tensions between the PM and Shaykha Mozah. The degree to which the ADF and NHRC play a role in the organization and conduct of the 2010 Forum will be a telling indicator of who prevailed in shaping the conference.

End Key Points and Comments.

[¶1.](#) (SBU) Ambassador met on November 12 with Dr. Marzen Marzouk, Director of the Arab Democracy Foundation (ADF). The meeting was held at Marzouk's request. Also present in the meeting were ADF Deputy Director for Programs Wafa'a Omar and Poloff Caudill. The discussion covered a variety of topics, including a look ahead to the 2010 Forum for the Future in Doha, which Qatar is expected to co-host with Canada.

[¶2.](#) (SBU) Ambassador asked Marzouk about GOQ preparations for the Forum. Marzouk said that the National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) and ADF would take the lead in preparations for the NGO portion of the conference, and that MFA would take the lead on the governmental side. He said that ADF had set aside the resources to play a major role in planning and conducting the Forum. He said such a role was appropriate, given its work on the conferences leading up to and including the recent Forum held in

Marrakesh.

¶3. (C) Ambassador pressed the issue of the role ADF and NHRC would play relative to the MFA. Marzouk conceded that Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Hamad bin Jassim Al Thani would make the ultimate decision as to the role the NHRC and ADF would play, and that Marzouk was waiting for a decision. He admitted that there was some tension between the PM and the Amir's consort, Shaykha Mozah bint Nasser Al Misnad, who chairs the ADF, and that such tension might affect the role ADF would be allowed to play.

¶4. (SBU) Marzouk stressed the importance of beginning preparations for the 2010 Forum right away, citing the problems seen in Marrakesh. He stated his belief that a successful Doha Forum would breathe new life into the process, adding new dynamics and participants. But, he cautioned, the process must be linked to outcomes. In his opinion, no matter who the co-hosts were, the U.S. had to play a major role or the Forum would not succeed.
LeBaron